

Message Text

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20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 DRC-01 SAJ-01

NIC-01 OMB-01 /164 W

----- 034484

R 050410Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9598

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 20394

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PINS, VS

SUBJECT: TPJMC MEETING OF DECEMBER 4 AND GVN DEMARCHE TO
ICCS ON NHA BE ROCKETING

1. AFTER A WEEK'S BOYCOTT BY THE PRG, THE TPJMC CHIEFS OF
DELEGATION MET TUESDAY MORNING FOR 45 MINUTES, WITH THE GVN
AS HOST. GENERAL HIEP OF THE GVN DELEGATION APPARENTLY OR-
CHESTRATED THE PROCEEDINGS, WHILE THE PRG REMAINED SUBDUED
AND PASSIVE.

2. THE FIRST ITEM ON WHICH HIEP CONCENTRATED WAS THE LOC NINH
PUAISON FLIGHT. HIEP ACCUSED THE PRG OF WILLFUL SABOTAGE
(ROCKETING OF BIEN HOA, DESTRUCTION OF TPJMC HELICOPTER AT
HHAN THIET) WHICH MAKES IT DIFFICULT FOR THE GVN TO RESUME
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THE FLIGHTS. NEVERTHELESS, TO SHOW ITS STEADFAST GOODWILL,

THE GVN WOULD PROVIDE THE SPECIAL FLIGHT WHICH THE PRG DELEGATION HAD REQUESTED FOR THIS WEEK IN ITS RECENT NOTE. HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF THE NHA BE INCIDENT, THE GVN MUST COMPLETE AN INVENTORY OF ITS POL BEFORE IT COULD SET A DEFINITE TIME FOR THE FLIGHT. HIEP WENT ON TO ASK THE PRG TO SHOW RECIPROCAL GOODWILL. IF, IN THE NEAR FUTURE, THE PRG DESISTS FROM ITS CONSTANT CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS, THE GVN WILL BE WILLING TO RESUME THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED LIAISON FLIGHTS.

3. HIEP SAVED THE ROCKETING OF NHA BE FORNAAST. AFTER INFORMING THE PRG DELEGATION OF THE ROCKETING, HIEP ASKED THAT THE PRG AGREE TO FORMING A JOINT JMC TEAM TO INVESTIGATE THE INCIDENT. THE PRG DELEGATION DECLINED. HIEP THEN ASKED THE PRG DELEGATION TO

AGREE TO CUTTING THE MEETING SHORT SO THAT HE COULD CALL ON THE ICCS AND REQUEST THAT IT URGENTLY INVESTIGATE THIS GRAVE CEASEFIRE VIOLATION. HE INVITED THE PRG TO DESIGNATE A REPRESENTATIVE TO ACCOMPANY HIM ON HIS CALL ON THE ICCS CHAIRMAN (SADRI OF IRAN). THE PRG DELEGATION'S CONVOLUTED REPLY AVOIDED AN ANSWER AND HIEP STATED THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO END THE MEETING AND GO ALONE. HE ASKED THE PRG DELEGATION TO RECONSIDER HIS PROPOSAL FOR A JOINT JMC TEAM INVESTIGATION, FOR HE HOPED TO FIND THEY HAD CHANGED THEIR MINDS BY FRIDAY'S MEETING.

4. SVMONDAY, THE GVN HAD SENT AN "EMERGENCY REQUEST" TO THE ICCS FOR AN IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION. THE INDONESIANS SUBSEQUENTLY DID SEND A TEAM TO NHA BE. TODAY, HIEP, HIMSELF, CALLED ON THE ICCS CHAIRMAN TO DELIVER A FORMAL PROTEST (WITH DETAILS AND PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE INCIDENT) AND TO REQUEST A FORMAL ICCS INVESTIGATION. THERE HAS BEEN NO RESPONSE FROM THE IRANIAN DELEGATION OR THE ICCS AS A WHOLE TO EITHER GVN REQUEST. MARTIN

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Message Attributes

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